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Newsletter Number 06 15 March 2013



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Thanks

.. to those who supported our junior swimmers at this week's Junior Swimming Sports

.. to those who supported our Interschool Swimming Team

.. to Mr Delemare and Mrs Donaldson for the many months of hard work to ensure a highly successful senior camp.

People of the week

.. Our year 7 and 8 campers for great teamwork, school spirit and attainment of goals during camp week (and for representing us on Sky TV).

.. The following students who achieved placings in this week's Interschool Swimming Sports:

	Yr	Freestyle	Backstroke	Breaststroke
Amy	4	4 th	4 th	
Bradley	4	1 st	2 nd	
Connan	4		9 th	
Orlando	4	6 th		
Olivia	5			10 th
Abbie	5		14 th	
Hannah	5		10 th	
Deborah	5	10 th		
Matthew	5		12 th	
Conal	5			8 th
Jaeydn	5	4 th		
Johnathan	5	15 th	5 th	11 th
Yr 4 Relay Team	-	2 nd		
Yr 5 Relay Team	-	3 rd		
Yr 6 Relay Team	-	5 th		

Apologies to Brayden for omitting his name in last weeks newsletter.

Brayden qualified for breaststroke at the Interschool Swimming sports.

..Leyton for trying his best at swimming and his alphabet this week

..Ex pupil Andrew Martin came 2nd with his team mate in the TeenAg competition and will head to the Grand Final in May. Plus Brad and Andrew Martin competed at the Kaitia Show with Ayshire animals and won Best Heifer Calf of show and Supreme Cow of the show and many more ribbons and cups. Well done boys.

Please keep us informed of the achievements of present and past pupils so that we can celebrate these together.

Business Sponsorship of Matarau School

We would like to hear from those interested in becoming school sponsors for the 2013 year. If you are interested in what sponsorship for the school might mean for your business please contact Mary Finlayson on 437 0441 or 0274 525 398 or mezandken@gmail.com. Sponsors are asked to make a donation of \$500 per year.

Vaccination Forms - Year 7

If your year 7 child received a vaccination form this week, please return it to school **as soon as possible**. This vaccination is a combined vaccination for tetanus, diphtheria and whooping cough. Please address any questions about the vaccination programme to Becky Butel - public health nurse - 021 272 2991 or to rebecca.butel@northlanddhs.org.nz

Year 8 Girls HPV Vaccination Forms

A number of forms have not been returned. If you received a form and have not returned it to school please return this **as soon as possible**. Any questions can be addressed to the public health nurse at the number above. Vaccinations will take place on Thursday 28 March.

Fundraising parent Helper Form - only about 20% returned

A huge thank you to those parents who have returned a form indicating willingness to assist in some way with at least one fundraising event this year. Remember this is a chance to fairly share any fund-raising load across the wider parent body. You only have to nominate yourself for **one event** and then you will not be called on again. The funds are used to directly support learning through purchase of resources for the benefit of all children. **So ... if you have not returned your form please do so within the next couple of weeks**. Any questions please to Sharon Smith on the Board.

School Fire Alarms

Over this weekend the school alarms are being tested so neighbouring houses if you hear the alarms going please ignore.

Term Events

Please pencil the following dates into your calendar. We will advise of further dates as these come to hand.

26 March	Year 4 to 6 Summer Sports Tournament
29 March	Good Friday
1/2 April	Easter Monday and Tuesday
19 April	Final day term 1

Forthcoming Board Elections

If interested in what being on a Board of Trustees involves you might like to visit www.trustee-election.co.nz

Choir

Shortly we will be calling for expressions of interest in our school choir ... to perform later in the year at the Whangarei Primary Schools Music Festival. Please discuss your child's possible involvement with them.

International Schools English and Mathematics Competitions

We will shortly be calling for expressions of interest in the above competitions. In advance of this please give careful thought to whether or not ..

- .. your child can dedicate a couple of evenings each week to practice tests
- .. whether you are in a position to support with encouragement and marking
- .. whether they are suited to these quite difficult tests (your child's teacher could give guidance here).

This year we will be offering an after school lab to support in preparation for these tests but places will be limited. More to follow.

Turbo-touch ... after school

Sessions began this week and will take place Thursdays 3:30 to 4:30. This programme is an ideal opportunity for children to grow their sports skills and develop self-esteem. If you would like your child involved, and have not yet registered them, please contact Miss Williams at school for information.

Matarau School Hockey Teams

If your child is interested in playing hockey for Matarau, please contact Kristine Redwood on 433 5885 or Karlene Smith on 433 8407. Information on teams and practice days will be sent home with the children next week. Coaches will be needed this year so if you are able to help please let Kristine or Karlene know.

Bible in Schools Programme

At enrolment parents are asked if they wish their child to be included in the Bible in Schools Programme ... usually each Monday 9:05 AM to 9:30 AM. In every subsequent year parents are given the opportunity to opt out (or back in) at their discretion. The programme is mainstream and ecumenical and aligned to some degree to the NZ Health Curriculum. The Board reviews content and teachers each year to ensure these are appropriate. Children not attending are given supervised work and the school day is extended (5 minutes a day on all 5 days) to ensure regular learning time is not reduced. **If you would like to change last year's arrangements (by opting your child in or out) of the Bible in schools programme please advise Helen in the office.** Please also advise Helen if you have any questions you would like answered and we will do our best to get you answers to these questions. Please also note that each year parents have a couple of weeks after commencement of the programme to "test the water" before deciding to opt in or out.

The Bible in Schools curriculum is available for perusal at the school office next week .. please feel free to drop by to flick through this material.

After School Maths Labs

Labs start Monday for those involved in these last term ... please ensure your children are aware of this and that they ... have an afternoon snack ... and that you have arranged pick up at 4:30.

A reminder that labs will be held from **3:30 to 4:30 each Monday and Thursday** until term's end. If your children are participating in these labs please make sure they bring a snack for after school and that they are picked up at 4:30 when labs are completed.

After the first session we will determine the number of available places and top-up on a needs basis. A further maths lab will be made available later in the year for those children unable to be placed in these labs but considered likely to benefit from additional support in this area.

Learning support programmes

If your child is involved in one of Mrs Comrie's learning support programmes please return their consent as soon as possible, Mrs Comrie is more than happy to answer questions and for parents to sit in on sessions.

Literacy Labs

Parents of children nominated for the literacy labs were advised this week. The focus will be on basic parts of speech, sentence building, punctuation and proof-reading. Literacy Labs will run each **Wednesday 3:30 to 4:30**. **Please contact Kevin with any questions.**

Guitar Lessons

There are a number of vacancies in this popular after school programme (Wednesday & Thursday in the Old School Room - by the upper car park). Cost \$20 per lesson. Vangie has a spare guitar for kids trying out. If interested please phone Vangie on 434 7573 or 021 1883251, or email killalea@ihug.co.nz

If interested ..

.. in yoga classes in our school hall for as little as \$5.00 a lesson on a Wednesday after school please give Susan Pryor a call on 094339578 or 0212084167 (this is a much reduced rate and Susan is well qualified for this role). There is some interest already but numbers need to lift somewhat for this to be viable. Susan is more than happy to answer any questions.

Apparently real court dialogue from USA court records ...

Q. Doctor,, how many autopsies have you performed on dead people?

A. All my autopsies have been on dead people. **The live ones put up too much of a fight.**

Final Thought

This week I had the opportunity to visit Kamo High School. I met with an enthusiastic and committed principal, visited on-task and well behaved classes doing meaningful work, saw facilities that would be the absolute envy of many schools, walked through a safe and orderly playground and talked with committed and forward thinking staff. I was very encouraged by what I saw and by the new direction of the school.

Regards

Kevin Trewhella
PRINCIPAL

Our Sponsors support your
children, please support them



KILL THE SPEED, NOT THE CHILD!

Rural Women New Zealand has been campaigning for better awareness of the 20km/h speed limit past school buses for several years, and they would like to remind rural school communities of the 20km/h speed limit in both directions when passing a school bus that has stopped to let pupils on or off the bus. In the 23 years from 1987, 23 children were killed in NZ when crossing the road to or from school buses. 47 were seriously injured and 92 received minor injuries.

If drivers observed the 20km/h speed limit, these lives would have been saved. Please slow down.



COMMUNITY NOTICES

Wanted – any house to rent, 2-3 bedroom, Matarau area. Phone Sylvia 0220965463.

Flatmate Wanted – 1 room to rent in Hikurangi \$80 per wk (negotiable) + power. You can have the use of the garage too. I'm a nightshift person, so I'll see you in the weekends. You'll have to cook for yourself. Phone Glenis 0220337812.

Kamo Rugby Squash Club Junior Club nights for 8 years and up, Monday nights from 18th March, and throughout terms 2 and 3, from 3.30 to 5.30. New players welcome to come and 'Have a Go' on Monday's in term one, just bring clean shoes - we have racquets to borrow. A series of 'Small-Nix Squash' sessions for 5 - 7 year olds will be held in term 2 (Friday nights - dates to be confirmed).

Enquiries welcome - email Fiona Moselen fiandmoose@xtra.co.nz or phone 4370730

St Francis Xavier Catholic School Gala - Saturday 23 March, 2013, 9.00am - 2.00pm, 1 Percy St, Kensington. A great fun filled day out for all the family. Every visitor can enter our **FREE** Gate Prize Draw to win a 24" Flat Screen TV. There will be lots of rides, games, stalls, fabulous food and free all day entertainment. Auction starts at 11.00am.

Moments in Time Events would love to plan your events for you. Weddings .. Engagement Parties .. Milestone Birthdays and much more. Give me a call to see how hassle free I can make organising you Special Event. I will make the occasion the most memorable day for you and your guests. Call Mandy Hampshire – 435 0559 or 0211018361.

Looking for a little after school drama? Then Join in - Making A Scene; Confidence Building Drama Classes on Tuesdays at the Riverside Theatre from 3:30pm ages 6 and up. Also: Speech & Drama Tuition for students looking to develop acting and speaking skills. Competitions and exam focus for more ambitious kids. Helen Ph 433 0288.



BURGLARIES OCCURRING IN YOUR AREA

Police would like to make you aware that there have been numerous burglaries to rural properties over the past two months in the Mangakahia, Kokopu, Maungatapere and Maungakaramea Area. We need your assistance to help locate the offender(s), recover the property and to prevent future burglaries

occurring.

A large amount of farm machinery ranging from quad bikes, tractors, trailers, tools and chainsaws have been stolen and are yet to be recovered. If you have any information surrounding these burglaries or have seen anything suspicious including persons/vehicles please contact me. All information is confidential.

Constable Natasha Waterhouse, Whangarei Police Enquiry Section: .DDI: 094304533

natasha.waterhouse@police.govt.nz.

Attached is some information to help reduce the risk of burglaries:


- * Lock your doors, windows, sheds, garages, if necessary padlock farm sheds.
- * Communicate with your neighbours: they can keep an eye on your address.
- * If you're on holiday, arrange for someone to collect your mail and to mow lawns.
- * Remove keys from vehicles. Close access gates
- * Note down suspicious registrations - often burglars will scope out an address first.
- * Keep valuables out of sight.
- * Record all serial numbers and photograph expensive or significant items.

The SNAP website (www.snap.org.nz) is a good way to record all your possessions.

Help your kids save their way to what they want.

Whether it's new wheels or the latest Xbox game, ASB school banking can help your kids reach their goal by teaching them the value of saving a little each week. Plus, if they reach their goal, they could win a Samsung Galaxy tablet for their classroom.

For more information contact your school office.



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